

Introduction to Computers



Welcome to the wonderful world of computing! This help aid presumes that you have little or no experience with the device commonly known as the PC (personal computer). Hopefully, this resource will aid you in some of the basic activities that are commonly performed with a PC.

Parts of the Computer

Your "computer" is a collection of devices that function as a unit. The most basic collection includes a Computer CPU, a Monitor, a Keyboard, and a Mouse.



The **Computer CPU** is normally a rectangular box that sits on your desktop (called a "Desktop Case") or next to your knee under the desk (called a "Tower Case"). The computer's CPU is actually a small electronic device inside the case but the term is often used to refer to the whole collection of electronics inside the box.



The Computer **Monitor** is the computer user's window into the workings of the computer. It consists of a television picture tube that had been modified to accept the type of video signal created by the computer's electronics.



The **Mouse**, named for the resemblance of the wire coming out of it and a mouse's tail. The mouse is another input device used to point at objects on the computer monitor and select them. The mouse has two buttons on it, left and right. When using the mouse, it is often referred as left-click or right-click meaning which button to use.



The **Keyboard** is the primary input device used to communicate with the computer. A computer keyboard closely resembles a conventional typewriter keyboard with the addition of numerous keys that are used specifically for computing functions.

For more information and practice using the keyboard and mouse, please visit our web site:
<http://personnel.ky.gov/gsc/elearning/compttrain.htm>

